GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2526
ANSWERED ON:16.12.2008
VALIDITY OF ARMS LICENCES
Argal Shri Ashok;Masood Shri Rasheed;Verma Shri Bhanu Pratap Singh

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of provision for issuance of arms licences in India alongwith the guidelines for extending the validity of licences to all India;

(b) the total number of requests received by the Government for issuance of arms licence and extending its validity to all India,during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise:

(c) the total number of cases pending and cleared by the Government during the said period;

(d) the details of letters received by the Government from Hon`ble Members of Parliament regarding guidelines on extending the validity and action taken thereon during the said period;and

(e) the steps taken by the Government for speedy redressal of requests for issuing arms,licences and for extending its validity to all India?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS(SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL)

(a): Arms licences are issued to persons facing grave and imminent threat to their lives,legal heirs of the existing arms licence holders and defence personnel who have been allotted weapons by Defence Authorities.

As per guidelines issued in 1995,requests for extending the area validity of Non-Prohibited Bore arms licences are considered by the State Governments concerned on merits based on the recommendations of the DMs concerned, keeping in view the genuineness of the need,law and order situation obtaining in the district/State and other local factors.In respect of Prohibited Bore arms licences,requests for extending the area validity for the All India are considered by MHA on merits,in consultation with the State Governments and the security agencies concerned.

(b) & (c): During the last three years,the total number of applications received for grant of Prohibited Bore arms licences was 330 (122-2006, 95-2007 & 113-2008), out of which 128 applications have been cleared,leaving a balance of 202 applications.Similarly,during the last three years,the total number of applications received for extension of area validity to all India in respect of Prohibited Bore licences was 81 (35-2006, 23-2007 & 23-2008),out of which 52 applications were cleared,leaving a balance of 29 applications.Details in respect of Non-Prohibited Bore weapons handled at State level and not maintained at Central level.

(d): As per available records letters received from two Hon'ble Members of Parliament requesting for copies of the guidelines on extending the validity,are under examination particularly in view of the said guidelines being classified document.Replies to the Hon'ble MPs will be sent shortly.

(e): On the receipts of the requests appropriate action as required for issuance of arms licences and extending its validity on an all India basis as per guidelines is taken.